

ADVS State Veterans/Military Legislation Update

Friday, 5 April 2013

Inclusion of any legislation in this report does not constitute endorsement of that legislation by the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services.

(Notations in Red represent new information or final action.)

SB = Senate Bill

SCM = Senate Concurrent Memorial

SCR = Senate Concurrent Resolution

SR = Senate Resolution

HB = House Bill

HCM = House Concurrent Memorial

HCR = House Concurrent Resolution

HJR= House Joint Resolution

HR = House Resolution

PSMRA=Public Safety, Military and Regulatory
Affairs Committee

To view bills go to: <http://www.azleg.gov/Bills.asp>

Senate Bills

SB 1128- technical correction; college savings plan NOW: Tuskegee airmen day

A "Strike Everything" amendment has changed this bill into one that designates each fourth Thursday in March as Tuskegee Airmen Commemoration Day in Arizona.

Original Sponsor:

Sen. Al Melvin, R-Dist. 11

Major Actions: 20 Feb 2013- A "Strike Everything" amendment was adopted in Senate Commerce, Energy and Military Committee and the bill was given a "Do Pass Amended" recommendation 6-0-1 not voting. 28 Feb 2013-Passed Senate 28-0-2 not voting and transmitted to the House. **1 April 2013-Passed House 58-0-2 not voting and returned to the Senate. 3 April 2013-Transmitted to the Governor. 4 April 2013-Signed by Governor. Effective 90 days after last day of session. ACTION COMPLETE.**

SB 1243- insurance regulation; exemption

Would exempt from some State insurance regulations the Army and Air Force Mutual Aid Association and the Navy Mutual Aid Association. This would exempt the two organizations as veteran service organizations are exempted from some insurance regulations.

Original Sponsor:

Sen. Al Melvin, R-Dist. 11

Major Actions: 29 Jan 2013-First Read. 30 Jan 2013- Second Read and assigned to the Senate Finance Committee and Senate Rules Committee. 13 Feb 2013-Given a "Do Pass" recommendation in Senate Finance Committee 7-0. 21 Feb 2013- Retained on Committee of the Whole Senate Agenda. 4 March 2013-First Read and assigned to the House Insurance and Retirement Committee, the House

PSMRA Committee and the House Rules Committee. 19 Mar 2013- Given a “Do Pass Amended” recommendation in House Insurance and Retirement Committee. A “Strike Everything” amendment was adopted, same purpose. 20 Mar 2013-Withdrawn from House PSMRA Committee. **Pending Senate Rules agenda.**

SB 1286- nursing facility provider assessments

Would exempt the Arizona State Veteran Homes from a nursing facility “assessment” that was passed last year. Basically, other states with such assessments have exempted their veteran homes to prevent them from paying a costly assessment to the State. This assessment would cost the Arizona State Veteran Home-Phoenix nearly \$500,000 per year. **Emergency Clause.**

Original Sponsor:

Sen. Gail Griffin, R-Dist. 14

Major Actions: 30 Jan 2013-First Read and assigned to the Senate Health and Human Services Committee and Senate Rules Committee. 28 Feb 2013-Passed Senate with Emergency Clause 28-0-2 not voting and transmitted to the House. 27 Mar 2013-Passed House with Emergency Clause 58-0-2 not voting and returned to the Senate. **1 April 2013-Transmitted to the Governor. 3 April 2013-Signed by Governor. Effective on signature. ACTION COMPLETED.**

SCR 1014- Vietnam war; commemorative partner

Would support efforts for the State of Arizona to be recognized as a partner in the official Department of Defense 50th Anniversary Commemoration of the Vietnam War. To be recognized as such, there has to be at least two events a year that that recognize Vietnam veterans and thank them for their service. Arizona already meets that requirement.

Original Sponsor:

Sen. Gail Griffin, R-Dist. 14

Major Actions: 30 Jan 2013-First Read and assigned to the Senate Commerce, Energy and Military Committee, and Senate Rules Committee. 6 Feb 2012-Given a “Do Pass” recommendation in Senate Commerce, Energy and Military Committee 7-0. Mon 11 Feb 2013-Out of Senate Rules Committee. 14 Feb 2013-Passed Senate 28-0-2 not voting and transmitted to the House. 18 Feb 2013-First Read in House and assigned to House PSMRA Committee and House Rules Committee. 27 Feb 2013-Given a “Do Pass” recommendation in House PSMRA Committee 8-0. 11 March 2012-Out of House Rules Committee 9-0. 25 Mar 2013- Passed House 58-0-2 not voting and returned to Senate. **3 April 2013-Transmitted to the Secretary of State. ACTION COMPLETED.**

House Bills

HB 2025- fallen hero special plates (Pat Tillman Legacy Plate Act)

Would create a “Fallen Hero” special license plate in honor of Pat Tillman with monies raised going to the Pat Tillman Foundation for a scholarship program to aid all veterans especially veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan.

Original Sponsor:

Rep. Michelle Ugenti, R-Dist. 8

Major Actions: 15 Jan 2013-First Read and assigned to House Transportation Committee and House Rules Committee. 16 Jan 2013-Second read. 24 Jan 2013 - Given a “Do Pass” recommendation in

House Transportation Committee, 6-0. 4 Feb 2013-Out of House Rules Committee 8-0-1 absent. 7 Feb 2013-Technical amendment adopted and given a "Do Pass Amended" recommendation in Committee of the Whole House. 11 Feb 2013-Passed by House with Emergency Clause 57-2-1 not voting and transmitted to the Senate. 19 Feb 2013-First Read in Senate and assigned to Senate Transportation Committee and Senate Rules Committee. 5 March 2013-Given a "Do Pass" recommendation in Senate Transportation Committee 5-2. 18 Mar 2013-Out of Senate Rules. **Pending Senate floor assignment.**

HB 2064- training permits; military health professionals

Would require the State to issue training permits to qualified military dentists, allopathic doctors, and physician assistants who are licensed in a U.S. jurisdiction and who are participating in a clinical training program at a civilian hospital affiliated with the U. S. Department of Defense.

The applying dentist, allopathic doctor, and physician assistant may not practice outside of the civilian hospital affiliated with the U. S. Department of Defense.

Basically, the Department of Defense trains certain military professionals at Scottsdale Healthcare. The State Medical Board only recognizes professionals training in federal facilities. This will recognize those being trained at private Arizona facilities. Emergency Clause.

Original Sponsors:

Rep. Heather Carter, R-Dist. 15; Rep. Ruben Gallego, D-Dist. 27, et al

Major Actions: 16 Jan 2013-First Read and assigned to House PSMRA Committee and House Rules Committee. 5 Feb 2013-Passed House with Emergency Clause 59-0-1 not voting and transmitted to the Senate. 19 Mar 2013-Passed by Senate with Emergency Clause 30-0 and returned to the House. 28 Mar 2013-Final House Passage with Emergency Clause 58-0-2 not voting and transmitted to the Governor. **3 April 2013-Signed by Governor. Effective upon signature. ACTION COMPLETE.**

HB 2076- separating service members; licensure NOW: military applicants; license requirements

Would give credit for military education, training or experience in meeting the requirements of a license, certificate or registration issued in Arizona. As amended would include commercial driver's licenses, licensed practical nurses.

Original Sponsors:

Rep. Sonny Borrelli, R-Dist. 5; Rep. Ruben Gallego, D-Dist. 27, et al

Major Actions: 17 Jan 2013-First Read and assigned to House PSMRA Committee and House Rules Committee. 13 Feb 2013-"Strike Everything" amendment adopted in House PSMRA Committee making it into a bill on military applicants; license requirements, with same purpose as above. Given a "Do Pass Amended" recommendation 8-0. 28 Feb 2013-Passed House 54-0-6 not voting and transmitted to the Senate. 4 Mar 2013-First Read in Senate and assigned to the Senate Commerce, Energy and Military Committee and the Senate Transportation Committee. 13 March 2013-Given a "Do Pass" recommendation in Senate Commerce, Energy and Military Committee 6-0-1 not voting. 19 Mar 2013-Given a "Do Pass" recommendation in Senate Transportation Committee, 6-0-1 not voting. 27 Mar 2013-Out of Senate Rules Committee. Placed on Consent Calendar. **Pending Senate floor assignment.**

HB 2243- small-scale computing systems, NOW: military retiree; pension exclusion amount

Would raise the current \$2,500 uniformed services retirement and pensions exemption from Arizona income tax exemption to \$5,000 effective 1 Jan 2013.

Original Sponsor:

Rep. David Stevens, R-Dist. 14, Sen. Judy Burges, R-Dist. 22, et al

Major Actions: 26 Mar 2013-Strike Everything amendment adopted in Senate Appropriations Committee changing this into a bill to increase uniformed services retirement/pension tax deduction to \$5,000. Assumes the provisions of what was SB 1287. **Pending Senate Rules Committee agenda.**

HB 2433- Arizona state guard; age

Would remove the upper age limit of 45 years of age for service in the Arizona State militia.

Original Sponsor:

Rep. Carl Seel, R-Dist. 20

Major Actions: 23 Jan 2013- First Read and assigned to House PSMRA Committee, and House Rules Committee. 20 Feb 2013-Given a "Do Pass" recommendation in House PSMRA Committee 6-1-1 absent. 25 Feb 2013- Amended and ruled "constitutional and proper" in House Rules Committee 9-0. 5 Mar 2013-Passed House 36-21-3 not voting and transmitted to the Senate. 6 Mar 2013-First Read in Senate and assigned to Senate Commerce, Energy and Military Committee and Senate Rules Committee. 20 Mar 2013- Given a "Do Pass" recommendation in Senate Commerce, Energy and Military Committee 4-2-1 not voting. 25 Mar 2013- Technical amendment adopted in Senate Rules Committee. 27 Mar 2013- Given "Do Pass Amended" recommendation in Senate Committee of the Whole. **1 April 2013-Passed Senate 16-9-5 not voting and returned to the House. 4 April 2013-Concurrence with Senate amendment recommended. Pending Final Reading.**

HB 2484- veterans; hiring preference; tax credit

Would establish a tax credit up to four thousand dollars for taxpayers who hire an honorably discharged unemployed veteran. Amendments adopted to specify that tax credit is made for hiring unemployed veterans who are not family members.

An amendment adopted in House PSMRA would additionally require the Arizona Department of Administration to establish a goal of awarding 1.5% of state contracts to veteran-owned businesses increasing 3% or more for each year after the first year and require the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services to establish a registry of veteran-owned businesses and verify the veteran status and eligibility of businesses seeking to be considered for the registry.

Original Sponsors:

Rep. Mark Cardenas, D-Dist. 19; Rep. Sonny Borrelli, R-Dist. 5; et al

Major Actions: 29 Jan 2013- First Read and assigned to House PSMRA Committee, House Ways and Means Committee, and House Rules Committee. 20 Feb-Two amendments explained above adopted in House PSMRA Committee and given "Do Pass Amended" recommendation 7-0-1 absent. 28 Feb 2013-Withdrawn from House Ways and Means Committee. 11 March 2013-Passed House 47-11-2 not voting and transmitted to the Senate. 12 March 2013-First Read in Senate, Assigned to Senate Finance Committee, Senate Government and Environment Committee and Senate Rules Committee. 20 Mar 2013-Given "Do Pass" recommendation in Senate Finance Committee 6-0-2 not voting. 21 Mar 2013-Given "Do Pass" recommendation in Senate Government and Environment Committee 7-0. **Pending Senate Rules Committee agenda.**

HCM 2004- veterans' home; tribal lands

A concurrent memorial urging Congress to enact legislation that would extend construction reimbursement and per diem to veterans' homes build on tribal lands. Currently, the rules applying to

States and territories being reimbursed and receiving per diem for veteran homes by VA do not apply to tribal governments.

Original Sponsors:

Rep. Albert Hale, D-Dist. 7

Major Actions: 5 Feb 2013-First and Second Reading waived. Unanimously adopted by House and transmitted to the Senate. 19 Feb 2013-First Read in Senate and assigned to Senate Government and Environment Committee. 4 Mar 2013-Given a “Do Pass” recommendation in Senate Government and Environment Committee 6-1. **Pending Senate Rules Committee agenda.**

HCM 2008- urging Medal of Honor for PFC Ignacio Servin

A concurrent memorial urging the Department of Defense and the United States Army to upgrade the Silver Star presented to PFC Ignacio Servin for actions in September 1944 to a Medal of Honor.

Original Sponsors:

Rep. Catherine Miranda, D-Dist. 27, et al

Major Actions: 27 Feb 2013-First and Second Reading waived passed unanimously and transmitted to the Senate.

HCR 2009- unmanned aircraft systems

Supporting the aggressive pursuit of Arizona being selected as one or more national test ranges for unmanned aircraft systems in shared national airspace as authorized under the 2012 National Defense Authorization Act and begin range operations in 2013.

Original Sponsors:

Rep. Thomas Forese, R-Dist. 17

Major Actions: 29 Jan 2013- First Read and assigned to House PSMRA Committee and House Rules Committee. 6 Feb 2013-Given a “Do Pass” recommendation in House PSMRA Committee 8-0. 21 Feb 2013-Passed House 58-1-1 not voting and transmitted to the Senate. 26 Feb 2013- First Read and assigned to Senate Commerce, Energy and Military Committee and Senate Rules Committee. 13 Mar 2013-Given a “Do Pass” recommendation in Senate Commerce, Energy and Military Committee, 6-0-1 not voting. **Pending Senate Rules Committee agenda.**